

## S26

### **How can we best respond in primary care to domestic violence**

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**Background and Aim:** Domestic violence is a common hidden problem in clinical practice and we need to develop better identification and responses to women and men attending general practice.

This symposium aims to highlight key recent evidence from the UK and Australia to stimulate discussion on how best to respond in clinical practice to women and men in relationships where domestic violence is occurring.

**Method:** We will present:

- (1) The Programme of Research on Violence in Diverse Domestic Environments (PROVIDE) which aimed to improve the response of the UK National Health Service for people experiencing abuse and perpetrators of abuse. In particular, a psychological intervention delivered by advocates will be highlighted that improved mental health outcomes for women seeking help from services;
- (2) A Researching Abuse and Violence program of Australian research aimed to improve the safety and well-being of women, men and children. In particular, a trial of an online healthy relationship tool and safety decision aid will be demonstrated and preliminary outcomes discussed.
- (3) A stepped care model with family justice centre (Belgium).
- (4) Finally, sustainability of interventions in general practice aimed at women in the UK, Europe and Australia will be discussed.

This will then be followed by an interactive discussion on what are the next steps in intervention development for patients attending general practice who are in relationships where domestic violence is happening. Participants will discuss to what extent detection, counselling, risk assessment and follow up can and should be responsibilities of the primary care team whilst taking into account differences in respective country facilities and cultural differences.